



Churchstanton Catch-up

Churchstanton
Primary School
Somerset
TA3 7RL

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Newsletter: 14th May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to see the children enjoy their music lessons and music tuition over the past couple of weeks. Sitting in my office I can hear the piano lessons progressing and I know that the drums and guitar lessons are a smash hit on Fridays - excuse the pun!

We are really pleased too that Country Dancing has been able to resume. We are indebted to Marie Wright for volunteering to keep this very special West Country tradition alive - thank you so much Marie! If you feel you would like to volunteer in school or get involved in running an after school club please do let us know. We have clear COVID safe protocols in place and can provide Lateral Flow Tests for volunteers to use before they come into school.

Well - being

All pupils and staff have been involved in completing a well-being survey this week which will help us to evaluate how well we promote a positive wellbeing in our school community. This is particularly important given the challenging year we have all been through. I will share the outcomes of the report with you which should be available before the end of term. With this in mind, I would like to remind you that the class email addresses were set up to support parents with communication during the Lock-downs whilst it was not possible to come into school. It has been startling to note that some parents are emailing class teachers very late into the evening (sometimes after midnight!) and over the weekend, and expecting an immediate reply. I am sure you will agree that this is unreasonable. Parents can of course send messages when it is convenient to them but class teachers will aim to respond within 48 hours or sooner if possible. You can also call or email Ms Coles in the office to pass on daily messages or family updates should you need to, as these will be picked up every morning. In the event of a serious out of hours safeguarding concern, may I refer you to the email and phone number at the foot of this page as your first point of contact. Thank you for your cooperation over this.

Face coverings in school

The DfE have issued updated guidance for schools this week. We are really pleased to announce that face-coverings will no longer need to be worn in classrooms. This is a huge relief to staff and children as I am sure wearing them has hampered effective communication in many ways. We are still required to wear them in communal areas and in meetings where we cannot socially distance, so therefore we request that parents and carers continue to wear them for drop off/pick up until we are instructed otherwise. Thank you for your cooperation with this. I will update you when things change again.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind Regards, Mrs C Halstead

Safeguarding: We take child protection extremely seriously at our school and this is especially important during any school closure. If you have any concerns you can ring Children Social Care on: **0300 123 2224** or email childrens@somerset.gov.uk



Celebration Catch-up

Headteacher Certificates

Hedgehog Class

Felix for being a Mega-Motivator!

Henry for writing a super dinosaur story.

Squirrel Class

Ella for being supportive of others in Outdoor Education.

Mikey for showing respect to others and for being a good friend.

Badger Class

Katelyn for showing great independence in Algebra.

Fina for showing great perseverance in Maths.



Special Award

Congratulations to **George and Alex** who have both won a Brazilian Ju Jit Zu medal in the last 2 weeks, each for 'student of the week'. What a fantastic achievement - well done boys!

Attendance

This fortnight, the Golden Gnome for attendance is awarded to **SQUIRREL CLASS!** Well done! Good attendance is directly linked to good progress. Keep up the good work!



House Points (so far this School year)....

Fantastic effort! Keep working hard for your team!



Blackdowns	1845
Brendons	2051
Mendips	1834
Quantocks	1842



Notices and reminders:

Internet safety - TikTok



TikTok

TikTok is a social media app
You can use music in your videos
and watch other people's videos and



We have been concerned about some of our pupils engagement with online games and apps such as TikTok recently. May we respectfully remind you of the strict rules regarding using these apps and the age limits that have been advised. Primary aged

pupils should not be using TikTok and unsupervised access to these platforms at such a young age, is not recommended. We have seen the emotional fallout that this type of activity causes in school and urge you to please follow the link below for further information and advice. [TikTok: A guide for parents \(net-aware.org.uk\)](https://www.net-aware.org.uk) Thank you.



Did you know...?

- Only 10% of children aged 8-17 strongly agree that they know how to report different types of content on the platforms they use.
- Nearly a third of children (32%) say they sometimes do nothing when they are upset or worried about something online, with more than one in 20 (7%) regularly doing nothing in response.
- Young people are more than twice as likely to block someone online (44%) as report them (21%).
- Under 50% of all age groups believe that something they reported that could be harmful would be removed.
- Visit: <https://reportharmfulcontent.com> to make a report or read advice.

Artshirts for Monday!



Please could all children bring in an old T-Shirt or men's shirt that can be used to protect their clothing during Arts Week. These will be kept in school for future use. Thank you.

Lunches

Please ensure that all lunches are booked and paid for (if applicable) for the weeks commencing Monday 28th June 2021 until the last day of term (Friday 23rd July 2021) by midnight on Sunday 23rd May 2021. If you are experiencing any difficulties in doing this, please contact Ms Coles in the office.

Summer @ Queens

Queens are delighted to announce the welcome return of Master Classes and activities for this coming summer holiday. This year, they have activities for the creative, artistic and energetic. From writing and illustrating a first edition book to creating and staging a play in a week and of course not forgetting our ever popular Adventure Activities week, there is something for everyone. Please see attached for more information.



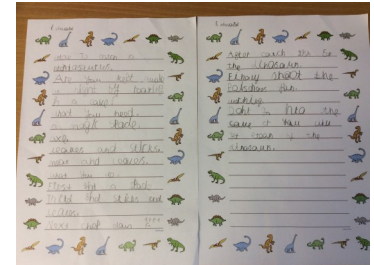
Classroom Catch-up



Hedgehog Class

Hedgehog Class have been busy writing instructions for How to Catch a Dinosaur. In Science we have tested waterproof materials and learnt about fair tests. Using our knowledge we have made waterproof shelters for our dinosaurs.

In our Outdoor Learning we have been able to walk up to our lovely field. We have completed scavenger hunts, stick collages and finished the sessions with parachute games. In Art we have painted patterns using water resistant wax.



Squirrel Class

Our current topic in Maths is volume. We have been looking at measuring amounts of water using a range of different scales, which has supported our experiment that asks the question: 'How does the volume of water change over time when a cup of water is fully covered, half covered and not covered?'

We have been recording our results and discussing the reasons behind the outcome of the experiment. We have been looking at the water cycle and the links between our experiment and the processes of evaporation and condensation. We have also been thinking about the additional factors that may affect our results.

Within art we have been exploring water colours, looking at creating shades of a single colour as well as spectrums using a variety of water brushing techniques. These techniques will be used when we create our final piece; Chinese koi fish art.



Badger Class

Over the last two weeks, Badger Class have finished their Science unit on Forces. We finished our parachutes and tested them by dropping them with a doll to time the speed of descent. The aim of this was to explore designs which used air resistance to best effect. The class also had the opportunity to design and build vehicles for water, which they tested in Outdoor Learning, on the School Pond.



The whole school was also lucky enough to have a visit from a lamb called Jellybean, who is being hand-reared by one of our Badger Class students, Fina. He came to school and we all braved the rain to meet him and see him have his bottle feed.



We have continued to explore our History topic of 'The Great Plague' and the children have produced some lovely writing in English to go along with this.

Catch-up on Dates for your Diary

Dates for your Diary:

(All subject to change)

May

Monday 17th to Friday 21st May **Arts Week**

Monday 17th to 19th May - **Artist in Residence - Darrell Wakelam.**

Tuesday 18th May 2021 — **Country Dancing to start from 3.25pm to 4.25pm**

Friday 28th May - **Half Term begins**

Summer Fete Meeting — **May — Date TBC**

June

Monday 7th June - **INSET day - School closed to all pupils**

Monday 14th June - **KS2 First Aid Training**

Monday 21st June - Friday 25th June - **Health Week**

Thursday 24th June - **World Harry Potter Night**

Friday 25th June - **Sports Day TBC**

July

Thursday 1st July & Friday 2nd July - **Badger Class Play at the Village Hall**

Friday 2nd July—**Non-Uniform day in exchange for Tombola Summer Fete item (Details to follow)**

Tuesday 6th & Wednesday 7th July - **Y6 Castle School Transition days**

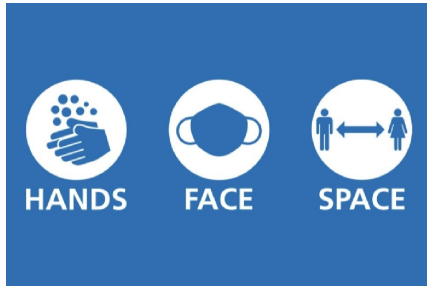
Saturday 10th July - **PTA Summer Fete**

Monday 12th July - **Pupil end of year reports out to parents**

Thursday 15th July - **Garden Party**

Friday 23rd July - **Year 6 Leavers' event**

Friday 23rd July - **Summer Term ends.**



COVID Procedures

Just a reminder of the procedures for parents if your child is displaying any of the symptoms associated with Coronavirus.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, please **DO NOT** send your child to school. Contact the school office and leave a message on **01823 601345** **and** email **sch.105@educ.somerset.gov.uk** to be sure that the message is received. You should organise for your child to be tested via the NHS online portal or by calling 119.

Symptoms of COVID 19

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

Do:

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

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